

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 11135 141327Z

53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 AF-10 IO-15 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 ORM-03 SR-02 DRC-01 /149 W

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O R 141220Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1320

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SY IT SOCI SREF

SUBJ: DAMASCUS JEWISH COMMUNITY

REF: STATE 203649

1. WE DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN
MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON MORNING OF OCT. 14. OFFICIAL AGREED TO
SEND IMMEDIATE CABLE TO ITALIAN EMBASSY DAMASCUS INSTRUCTING
IT TO ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN CORRECTNESS OF REPORT THAT LIVES
OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN DANGER. IF REPORT FOUNDED, EMBASSY
REQUESTED TO CONCERT WITH FRENCH AND SPANISH EMBASSIES RE
JOINT ACTION TO PREVENT VIOLENCE BEING DIRECTED AGAINST DAMASCUS
JEWISH COMMUNITY.

2. OFFICIAL STATED THAT CURRENT CRITICAL SITUATION IN DAMASCUS
COULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR ITALIAN EMBASSY TO COMPLY WITH US
REQUEST, BUT ITALIANS, OF COURSE, WOULD DO THEIR BEST. HE
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PAGE 02 ROME 11135 141327Z

SUGGESTED THAT US CONSIDER APPROACHING VATICAN ON SUBJECT SINCE

IT HIS VIEW HOLY SEE MOST APPROPRIATE VEHICLE FOR HUMANITARIAN
APPEAL OF THIS NATURE.

3. WE TOLD OFFICIAL WE FULLY AWARE OF DIFFICULT SITUATION
IN DAMASCUS, AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ITALIAN EFFORTS
TO BE HELPFUL. WE SAID WE WOULD REPORT HIS EXCELLENT SUGGESTION
FOR VATICAN APPROACH TO DEPT.

4. AFTER ABOVE DRAFTED, OFFICIAL PHONED TO SAY THAT MINISTRY
WOULD TELEPHONE DAMASCUS ON SUBJECT RATHER THAN SENDING CABLE.
HE EMPHASIZED THAT ITALIAN AMBASSADOR BUCCI WOULD BE GIVEN
FULL DISCRETION IN COMPLYING WITH MINISTRY'S INSTRUCTIONS.

5. OFFICIAL INFORMED US THAT DELEGATION FROM ITALIAN
JEWISH COMMUNITY HAS APPOINTMENT WITH FONMIN SEC. GEN. GAJA
ON OCT. 15, AND HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT GROUP MAY ALSO APPEAL
FOR ITALIAN INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF SYRIAN JEWS. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS VOLPE
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30 JUN 2005

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